

# THE RIO NEWS.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, APRIL 12TH, 1898.

NUMBER 15

**WILSON, SONS & CO.**  
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These locomotive engines are adapted to every variety of service, and are built accurately to standard gauges and templates. Like parts of different engines of same class perfectly interchangeable.

Passenger and Freight Locomotives, Mine Locomotives, Narrow Gauge Locomotives, Steam Street Cars, etc., etc.

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in its less acute forms. Mixed with their milk,  
it prevents bowel troubles with children. It is also a  
valuable relief for women *en route*. Pleasant and  
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For this important contribution to medical science  
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Insures against risk of fire, houses, goods and merchandise, and offers the best of guarantees with the most favorable conditions.

G. C. Anderson, Agent.

2, Rua General Camará—1st floor.

This company has just issued in London an Insurance policy for the Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company, United States of America, for the amount of \$17,380,150.00 (£3,620,865), having received the respective premium amounting to \$169,109.00 (£35,750).

No other company has ever taken so large a risk up to the present date.

## COMMERCIAL UNION ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Fire and Marine.

Capital .. £2,500,000

Agents for the Republic of Brazil:

Walter Block &amp; Co.

No. 115, Rua da Quitanda.

## THE MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Capital .. £1,000,000 sterling

Reserve fund .. £500,000 "

Agent in Rio de Janeiro:

G. C. Anderson.

2, Rua General Camará—1st floor.

## ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

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Capital .. £2,000,000

Accumulated Funds .. £8,250,000

Insures against the risks of fire, houses, goods and merchandise of every kind at reduced rates.

John Moore &amp; Co. agents.

No. 8, Rua da Candelária.

## LONDON AND LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE CO.

Capital (fully subscribed) .. £2,127,500

Reserve fund .. £76,355

Agents in Rio de Janeiro:

Edward Ashworth &amp; Co.

No. 50, Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março.

## BRITISH &amp; FOREIGN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY LTD.

Capital .. £1,000,000 sterling

Reserve fund .. £1,328,751 "

Agent: P. E. Swanwick.

87, Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março—2nd floor.

## GUARDIAN FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

Agents in Rio de Janeiro:

Youle &amp; Co.

No. 38, Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março.

## NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE CO. LD.

Total funds on 31st Dec. 1892 .. £12,954,532

Authorized Capital .. £3,000,000

Subscribed Capital .. £2,750,000

Agents for Rio de Janeiro:

Pullen, Schmidt &amp; Co.

107, Rua da Quitanda.

## Travellers' Directory.

## São Paulo:

Through express trains leave the Central station daily at 8 a.m. and 8.30 p.m.; returning leaves São Paulo at 5 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Numerous steamers weekly for Santos, connecting with the São Paulo Railway.

## Cachambú and Lambari:

Central Railway (São Paulo express) to Conceição, thence by Minas and Rio Railway to destination.

## Juiz de Fora, Barbacena, Ouro Preto, etc.

Through express trains leave Central station daily at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Councils with all branches along the main line (Linha do Centro) of that railway. Intermediate trains leave at 7 a.m. and 4 p.m., the first running through to Barbacena, and the second to Itate Rios.

## Bello Horizonte:

Trains leave station of General Carneiro, on main line of Central railway, at 2.21 p.m. and 11.40 a.m.—the latter a mixed train.

## Petropolis:

Barca leaves the Frainha at 4 p.m. daily, except Sundays and holidays, to connect with railway at Abad. Passenger train leaves Petropolis at 1.15 p.m. (Central Railway) at 7 a.m. and 5.15 p.m. on all land route (passengers should take the suburban trains at the Central Railway station at 5.25 a.m. and 4.40 p.m. to connect with Petropolis train).

Returning from Petropolis, the Barca train leaves at 7.30 a.m., except Sundays and holidays, and all land (trains leave at 6 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.). On Sundays and holidays the Barca leaves the Frainha at 7 a.m., and returning the train leaves Petropolis at 4 p.m., giving excursionists about six hours in Petropolis.

## Nova Friburgo:

Regular trains leave Marihuas at 5.30 a.m. daily and at 3 p.m. on Saturdays, to connect with the Foz de Iguaçu Railway at São Anna de Marinh. Returning trains leave Nova Friburgo at 2.25 p.m. daily, and at 6 a.m. on Mondays. Excursion train leaves Marihuas at 2.15 p.m. (leaves Rio at 2.30 p.m.), and returning leaves Friburgo at 6.40 a.m.

## Corcovado:

Regular trains, week days, leave St. Rua Cosme Velho, Laranjeiras, at 8 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., returning leave the summit at 7.30 and 9.30 a.m. and at 4.30 and 7 p.m. On Sundays and holidays, the hours are: ascending 6.30, 8.30 and 11 a.m.; 12.30, 2.30, 5.15 and 8 p.m.; descending 8.35, 10.05, 11.35 a.m., 1.05, 2.35, 4.05, 7 and 9 p.m. Each train gives the excursionist half an hour on the summit.

N.B.—Travellers will oblige by notifying Editor of any changes in the foregoing details that may be experienced any of which up to the time of publication have been made by the Railway authorities.

## Official Directory

U. S. LEGATION.—Petropolis. Charles Page Bryan, Minister.

BRITISH LEGATION.—No. 1, Rua Visconde de Itamaraty, (opposite Custom House). Petropolis.

EDMUND G. H. PIPERS, Minister.

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 99, Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março, EUGENE SEIGER, Consul General.

BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL.—No. 1, Rua Visconde de Itamaraty, (opposite Custom House).

WILLIAM G. WAGSTAFF, Consul General.

## Church Directory

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—Until further notice the Church will be closed to regular services. The service will be held every Sunday (except on the 1st Sunday in the month) at twelve o'clock. In the Methodist Episcopal Church (kindly lent) Largo do Cateite, Baptisms and Marriages at times to be arranged with the Chaplain.

IRVING CRAWFORD, M.A., British Chaplain, 65 Rua do Aqueduto.

IGREJA EVANGELICA LUTHERANA.—Rua Largo de S. Joaquim, No. 179—Divine service in Portuguese on Sundays. Prayer meeting at 10 a.m.; Worship at 11 a.m.; Biblical class to study the Scriptures, at 5 p.m.; Gospel preaching at 6.15 p.m. on Wednesdays. Biblical study and preaching at 7 p.m.

JOAO M. G. DOS SANTOS, Pastor.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Largo do Cateite. English services at 12 a.m. Sundays. Prayer meeting service Thursday, 7.30 p.m. Portuguese services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays; 7 p.m. Wednesdays.—E.A. THILLY, Pastor. Sunday School 11 a.m. at Friburgo, Corcovado, Sundays, 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Rev. FRANK WIEDERHEIMER.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—No. 15, Travessa da Barreira. Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. and at 7 p.m. Thursdays.

Residence: Rua Petropolis, 42.

BAPTIST CHURCH.—No. 25, Rua de São Anna. Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., and every Wednesday at 7 p.m.

W. B. BAGDY, Pastor.

Caixa 352.

IGREJA PRESBYTERIANA DO RIACHUELO.—No. 134, Rua D. Anna Nery, Estação do Riachuelo.

Services, Sundays 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Wednesdays 7 p.m. FRANKLIN H. NASCIMENTO, Pastor.

Primary school in the church building.

## Professional Directory

Dr. William Frederick Eisenlohr, German Physician, Office 75, Rua General Camará, Consulting hours from 12 to 3 p.m.

Englishmen and Americans wishing to learn Portuguese should apply to Prof. L. MARCANT, Rua do Ourfiro, No. 35.

Dr. Haverburg, Physician and accoucheur.

Residence: 28, Rua 1<sup>a</sup> de Março. Consulting hours from 12 to 3 p.m.

Dr. Brissey, Surgeon, graduate of the Faculty of Paris. Specialized in diseases of females, urinary passages. Radical cure of hernias, hemorrhoids, tumors, surgical diseases of the bones, and surgical operations. Consultations from 12 to 3 p.m., Rua da Quitanda, No. 42.

## Miscellaneous.

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY'S AGENCY.—No. 20, Rua d' Ajuda.—H. C. YUCKER, Agent.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY'S AGENCY.—Rua Sete de Setembro, No. 71.—On sale, the Holy Scriptures in Portuguese, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish and other languages.

JOAO M. G. DOS SANTOS, Agent.

BRITISH SUBSCRIPTION LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.—31, Rua Gonçalves Dias, Consulting hours from noon to 6 p.m.—For terms apply to Librarian.

THE SEAMEN'S MISSION.—Reading Room, 10, Rua Caramuru (formerly Imperatriz) 3rd floor.

W. J. LEWIS, Missioner. Gifts of books, magazines, papers, etc., also left-off clothing, will be gratefully received at the Mission, or at No. 27, Candelária.

ROUND MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—No. 31, Rua da Quitanda, 2nd floor. Rooms open from 10 to 10 o'clock p.m. Secretary's office hours: from noon to 10 o'clock p.m. Nicolau A. Rodrigues, President; Thomas L. da Costa, General Secretary; Y. A. W. Stone, Hon. Treasurer.

## WEST COAST ITEMS.

—Another cabinet crisis in Chili has just terminated, a new ministry having been organized by Dr. Carlos Walker Martínez.

—A Santiago telegram says that preparations are under way for a patriotic lottery in the purchase of a war-ship. Happy indeed is the country where even the lotteries are bountiful of patriotism.

## RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—The Spanish organ in Montevideo, *La España*, is still in a temper over the sale of those two Brazilian cruisers to the United States. It says that this proves Brazil to be a mortal enemy of Spain. *¿Culpa? ¿quién? ¿quién?* what will it say when it hears about the *Nithony*?

—An alarming report comes from Paraguay to the effect that leprosy is spreading greatly among the needy classes, especially in Asunción. Fortunately the disease does not make us highly infectious or contagious so there is no necessity for alarm here, though cases are not unknown in this city.—*Montevideo Times*.

—The sick of the British community are cared for by the British Hospital better than any other nationality. It is an institution of which we may be proud, and which should be endowed by our rich men. It would not be half bad for each of our large railway companies to support a ward. They are liberal as it is.—*Buenos Aires Herald*.

—The U. S. schooner *Carrie and Annie*, 90 tons, has arrived here with 16 persons on board bound from Boston for the goldfields at Klondyke. She had not intended to put into this port, but there had been some quarrelling on board, which has been settled by the discharge of the mate, and the little vessel now proceeds on her adventurous voyage. Another *Klondyker* is expected shortly. Montevideo seems to have become the recognized port of call for these vessels.—*Montevideo Times*, March 30.

—The public has great need of a defence association to resist encroachments on the rights of persons and property by government. In the passage and administration of laws there is no regard whatever paid to constitutional or treaty obligations. Half the taxes exacted are in direct violation of the constitution, as, for example, those on the means of transit for produce, which the constitution declares shall not have a tax, and what it may; and yet every cart and craft is taxed and all transit is taxed—in fact, nothing can be brought into this city which is not illegally taxed.—*Buenos Aires Herald*.

—On Saturday last Capt Gamble of H. M. S. *Reagle*, on passing the guard of the captaincy of the port, addressed a question to the sentinel, receiving for answer, and without having given any provocation, a blow in the chest from the butt of the sentry's gun. Capt Gamble immediately reported the matter, and as soon as it came to the knowledge of the provisional President the latter gave strict orders for the arrest and trial of the offender on duty, and for the institution of the corresponding inquiry and punishment of those to blame. Capt. Gamble and some of his officers, all in private clothes and bound for a picnic party, had landed by the official mole, which is always used by the officers of war vessels in port. Capt. Gamble turned back to give directions about a basket that had been left behind, when he happened to cross the back of the sentinel, he was assaulted in the manner described.—*Montevideo Times*, March 30.

—The Luo scumbl reeks. Sr. Luo says he is not to blame. We do not blame him, but one thing is certain. He sold nearly 200 horses to government, at \$70 each. The horses are now found to be dead plugs, not worth killing for their hides—spavined, toothless, galled and ulcered wrecks, according to current report. Are they the same horses that Sr. Luo sold? That is the question. Sr. Luo says they are not, and asks us to suspend judgment. We suspend it. We would suspend more than judgment if we had a chance. General Levalle is having a *sumario* made out. This *sumario* will of course explain the whole business. It always does. In any case the war drum has not been beaten in vain. When writing of the present warlike propaganda some weeks ago we expressed a suspicion that there was a nigger in the wood pile. We were about right. And there are several niggers.—*Southern Cross*, Buenos Aires.

—Public charities are in a most disorganized condition and at best are entirely inadequate to the necessities of a city like this. There is practically no place where the poor can go when they are ill, if their illness is not of such a character as to endanger others. We have known cases where those very ill have been unable to find a place where they could get medical aid. They have gone from one hospital to another only to be turned away because there was no room or bed for them. There is no systematic benevolence among us. We give much to rich beggars because of their impotency, while the really poor and helpless get little aid. Lottery-gambling is depended on to support charities, but this support is limited and so is the scope and field of charities. Hospitals enough to answer the calls of humanity should be built and supported by public funds, which would place the burden where it ought to rest, on the shoulders of the tax-payers. All this presupposes a power of organization and administration which we do not possess and show no sign of getting. In the mean time the poor who fall ill, are left to suffer and die uncared for.—*Buenos Aires Herald*.

—Minister Escalante has decided not to levy that forced loan on the insurance companies just yet. Therefore, instead of obliging them, per law of congress, to pay more than market price for national bonds with interest of 4 per cent., H. E. has compromised the matter by allowing the companies to deposit 60 per cent. of the sums mentioned by congress in cash, against treasury bills, leaving 6 per cent. interest. When congress meets, the minister will ask for a revision of the law, and will explain what he has done. Then there will be wigs on the green in earnest. But the minister is right all the same—for once!—*Southern Cross*, Buenos Aires.

—The disinfecting process is still going on with great activity in the Immigrant's Home, which will be cut off from all outward communication for ten days, and immigrants arriving here in the meantime will be quarantined elsewhere. The passengers of the *Andes* that the police have succeeded in hunting up have all been handled off to Martin García, where they and all their goods and chattels will be submitted to the disinfecting process in all its rigour for the space of three days. Many of the other passengers who had left the Home have been able to evade the search made for them. The whole thing savours of a farce.—*Buenos Aires Herald*, March 31.

—It will be remembered that the progress of Mr. E. Cooper's Coruña port scheme was arrested by the concessionaires of the sealfisheries at Maldonado, who lodged a protest to the effect that their acquired rights would be interfered with by the surveys. The matter was referred to the executive, which, after some trouble, arranged that the surveys might be carried out during the close time for seal fishing, now about to commence. But the concessionaires would not agree to this, and now, we understand, have lodged an appeal before the tribunals, which may delay the progress of the port scheme indefinitely. Few more important schemes for the development of the republic have been presented of late than this of the Coruña port, yet it seems to meet with nothing but obstruction. First of all there was a struggle of some four years or more for it to obtain parliamentary sanction, and now that the concession has been granted, its execution is being obstructed at the very outset by the seal-fishing concessionaires. The latter industry is worth at the most some eight or ten thousand dollars the year, and it is monstrous to think that an industry of such secondary importance should be allowed to interfere with a scheme of truly national importance.—*Montevideo Times*.

A MAN in Paris has been making a good deal of money exhibiting a curious animal in the café chantant and such places. It was a very queer little animal, and the alert Parisians were willing enough to drop the pet on a sight of it. Still, look as they would, none could determine the creature's species. It was interesting, but it was baffling, and the exhibitor coined money. One day, however, a dog chance to follow a curious beholder into the café chantant. Immediately the weird animal jumped its back like a diminutive animal and began to hiss and spit? The mystery was solved! It was a shaved cat!—*Chicago Times-Herald*.

Both the wild and cultivated pineapple yield fiber which, when spun, surpasses in strength, fineness, and luster those obtained from flax. It can be employed as a substitute for silk, and as a material for mixing with wool or cotton. It is also useful for cordage, textile fabrics, sewing silk or twist, laces etc. In China it is used as a material for clothing for agriculturists, and is in request in India as a material for stringing necklaces. It produces the celebrated *pine* cloth of the Philippine Islands. It is remarkably durable, unaffected by water, and is white, soft, silky, flexible, and long in staple. Samples cleaned, without washing, in the government experiments in Florida in 1892, when twisted to the size of binding twine, showed a breakage strain of 150 pounds.

IN THE remotest parts of Sweden the poor people make and bake their rye bread twice a year, and store the harvest away, so that eventually they are as hard as bricks. Further north still bread is made from barley and oats. In Lyland, oats, with the inner bark of the pine, are used. The two together, well ground and mixed, are made into large flat cakes, cooked in a pan over the fire. In dromy Kiamchika, a pine or birch by itself, well uncooked, pounded, and baked, frequently constitutes the whole of the native bread food. The technique acrosses the elegant nose of the rocks and grinds it into fine flour which serves both for bread and puddings. In some parts of Siberia, China, and other Eastern countries, a fairly palatable bread is made from buckwheat. In parts of Italy chestnuts are cooked, ground into meal, and used for making bread. *Durra*, a variety of the millet, is much used in the countries of India, Egypt, Arabia, and Asia. Minor for making bread. Rice bread is the staple food of the Chinese, Japanese, and a large portion of the inhabitants of India. In Persia the bread is made from rice, flour, and milk; it is called *loush*.

**Banks.****LONDON AND BRAZILIAN BANK, LIMITED.**

Capital..... £ 1,500,000  
 Capital paid up..... " 750,000  
 Reserve fund..... " 600,000

HEAD OFFICE: LONDON.

BRANCH OFFICE IN RIO DE JANEIRO

10, Rua de Alfandega

Draws on Head Office and the following Branches and Agencies:

LISBON, OPORTO, PARA.  
 FERNAMBUCO, BAHIA, SANTOS, SAO PAULO,  
 CAMPINAS, RIO GRANDE DO SUL,  
 PELOTAS, PORTO ALEGRE, MONTEVIDEO,  
 BUENOS AIRES, ROSARIO DE SANTA FE, AND  
 NEW YORK.

Also on:

Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co., LONDON.  
 Messrs. Muller Frères & Co., PARIS.  
 Messrs. Schroder & Co., J. H. Schroder & Co.,  
 nachf. HAMBURG.  
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Capital. . . 10,000,000 Marks.

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(Calixa 108.)

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(Calixa 320.) (Calixa 185.)

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Subscribed capital. . . £ 1,500,000  
 Realized do . . . " 900,000  
 Reserve fund . . . " 1,000,000

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From Times of Ceylon, February 12, 1898.

**RUBBER CULTIVATION IN CEYLON.**

BY THE DIRECTOR, ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS.

The growth of the cycling trade, and other industries in which rubber is used, has caused a great increase in the demand for rubber. That the price has not correspondingly increased is chiefly due to the discovery in West Africa of a new rubber-yielding tree, *Kikxia africana*. The collection of rubber from wild trees is carried on in a reckless way, and the trees are being gradually exterminated. The rubber collectors have thus to go further and further inland every year for their supplies, and the cost of the rubber is thus increased by the difficulties of transport. There seems therefore a likelihood that the planting of the best kinds of rubber may prove a profitable industry.

The world's annual consumption of rubber is now over 100,000,000 lb.,—worth more than £10,000,000 sterling. Of this, from one-third to one-half comes from Pará, which exported in 1895, 45,788,613 lb.

There are many trees which yield rubber in different parts of the world. Most of them, however, are unsuited for cultivation for various reasons: some are climbers requiring large trees as supports some yield very little rubber or rubber of poor quality, and others do not yield rubber until they are twenty-five or more years old. The chief kinds likely to be useful in cultivation are Ceará rubber (*Manihot Glaziovii*), Panama rubber (*Castilloa elastica*), Pará rubber (*Hevea brasiliensis*), and perhaps African or Lagos rubber (*Kikxia africana*).

The cultivation of Ceará rubber was energetically taken up in Ceylon about twelve or fourteen years ago, but the returns were found unsatisfactory, although the plant grew very well indeed. There are but few trees now in cultivation. Panama rubber is also scarce in Ceylon, and has not given very satisfactory results. The only important rubber at the moment is the Pará kind, which alone is dealt with in the remainder of this circular. This tree is well suited to the climate of the low-country in the south-west of Ceylon, is readily cultivated, and gives a fair yield of rubber. Pará rubber is the best quality upon the market, and obtains the highest and most uniform prices.

The town of Pará occupies a position near the mouth of one of the vast embouchures of the Amazonas, in about latitude 1°, but the district of the same name extends over a vast forest region to the south and west, throughout which, and the enormous forests of central and northern Brazil, *Hevea brasiliensis* and allied species are abundantly found. The climate is remarkable for its uniformity of temperature, usually not exceeding 87° F. at midday, or below 74° at night. The greatest heat recorded is 95°, and the mean for the year is 81°. The rainfall occurs principally during the months from January to June, the maximum being in April, when it reaches 15 in. For the remaining six months of the year very little falls, but there are fine days in the wet season, and occasional showers in the dry. The whole country is covered with dense moist forests, and the soil near the numerous and gigantic rivers is deep, heavy, and very fertile. During the wet season much of the low-lying country near the Amazon's mouth is flooded. In the *gafos* near Pará, visited by Mr. Cross, he found a flat district only three or four feet above the highest tides, and completely intersected with water-courses at low tide, filled with a soft, rich mud. The forest here, in which caoutchouc collecting was vigorously carried on, was 80 or 100 ft. high and very damp and unhealthy, the soil full of moisture and very rich and fertile. The young plants, however, were not often observed to grow actually within the reach of the tides, but it is evident that they must frequently be subject to be partially covered with water.—Trimen, *Notes on Rubber-yielding Plant*.

Pará rubber was introduced into Ceylon in 1876, when the young plants obtained from Brazil at the expense of the Indian government were planted in Henaratgoda Garden. These are now very fine trees, with an average height of about 60 feet, and average girth at 6 feet above the ground of 4 feet. From their seed other plantations have been made in the Botanic Gardens, and also by the forest department. A large quantity of seed has been sold to private planters since 1886. There are about 450 trees in the Botanic Gardens, producing about 100,000 seeds per annum.

The number of trees on private estates in Ceylon is probably about 200,000, of various ages from one to twelve years. This number represents an area of about 750 acres.

**CLIMATE.**

From the description of the climate of Pará quoted above, it will at once be evident that only the wet, low-lying country in the south-west of Ceylon is suitable for the growth of *Hevea*. The best climate is probably that of the country lying between Kalutara and Ratnapura. Whilst the tree will grow at Peradeniya (elevation 1,576 feet) it suffers much from cold, and grows very much more slowly than in the low country. Probably about 500 ft. or 600 feet will be found to be the maximum elevation for successful culture. The tree is quite unsuited for cultivation in the dry regions of the island.

**SOIL.**

In its native country *Hevea* is a jungle tree usually growing in deep, rich, alluvial soil which is liable to be flooded during the wet seasons. The earliest plantations made in Ceylon were therefore made on low-lying land subject to floods. It was found that if the plants were well grown up, flooding did them no harm, whereas it was fatal to seedlings or very young plants. It would seem, therefore, that what the plants really require is a damp soil, and this has been borne out by local experience. The immense level area of the Amazon valley tends to prevent floods of any great depth, whereas in Ceylon the valleys are narrower, and the water may easily rise several feet. Land liable to frequent flooding should therefore be avoided.

Chena land has been tried at Edugoda, but the result has been unsatisfactory; sandy soil also has been found unfavorable to the growth of *Hevea*, and the tree also grows badly where exposed to much wind.

It would appear therefore that the most suitable soil and situation for this tree is fairly flat land, at about sea level, with good alluvial soil, preferably jungle land, and not sandy. The land should not be subject to frequent floods or strong winds.

The area of land in Ceylon suitable for profitable rubber cultivation is thus comparatively small, possibly not more than 10,000 acres, but, on the other hand, this cultivation need not interfere with that of coconuts.

**CULTIVATION.**

*Hevea* forms a moderately tall tree, not very much branched. It begins to flower at about six years old, but for planting purposes the seed of more mature trees (twelve or more years old) is preferable.

About February, in Ceylon, the leaves mostly turn brown and drop off, and the flowers soon afterwards appear. They are followed by large woody fruits, each containing three seeds, which ripen in July and August. The fruits open explosively, usually in the hot part of the day, and scatter the seeds to some distance. The seed is very large, weighing about half an ounce. It has a hard seed coat, and the interior substance is very oily.

The seed soon loses its power of germination, and ought to be sown within a week of its falling from the tree. If it has to be sent on a voyage of more than a week, it should be very carefully packed in charcoal. Even thus, however, the majority of the seeds soon die, and the only satisfactory way of sending seeds to distant countries is to plant

them in soil in a Wardian case and allow them to grow on the way.

The germination of the seed is very rapid, and a long tap root is soon produced. The seed should be sown about an inch deep in well prepared soil, in nurseries, or, if preferred, in bamboo pots or baskets. They should be kept shaded and watered, and when the young plants are from 18 in. to 24 in. high they may be planted out. Good results are also obtained by stumping, the plants being allowed to grow about 3 ft. high, and then taken up, and the main root cut across about a foot below the ground; but the method of planting out the smaller seedlings in perhaps preferable.

The plant may also be propagated by cuttings. The method employed in the Botanic Gardens has usually been to take cuttings near the ends of the branches, but further back than any of the leaves. Each cutting is about a foot long, and as thick as a lead pencil, and is cut off at both ends by oblique cuts made just below leaf scars. The cuttings are planted in nurseries in wet earth. This method is somewhat precarious; sometimes nearly all the cuttings grow, at other times only a small proportion.

The seedlings, stumps, or cuttings should be planted out during rainy weather in prepared places. Holes should be dug as in the case of cacao, and filled with good soil. A little manure will often be advantageous. The young plants require to be lightly shaded for a time until they are established, and probably for the first two or three years they will grow the better for a certain amount of shade, such as would be given by narrow belts of trees running through the plantation. These belts should be arranged to act as wind belts, as the *Hevea* is easily injured by wind. By the time the trees are about three years old they will have grown up to a height of about 25 ft. or 30 ft. and form their own shade.

Various distances apart have been tried in planting *Hevea*. The younger plantation at Henaratgoda Garden has the trees planted 12 ft. apart. Their average girth is now about 30 in., and they require thinning. It will not do, however to conclude from this, as is sometimes done that the trees should be originally planted more than 12 ft. apart. On the contrary, the best results have been obtained by planting 8 or 10 ft. apart each way. The trees thus form their own shade and keep down weeds, and a process of natural selection of the best trees goes on, and the more weakly and dwarfed trees may be gradually thinned out in subsequent years. Another advantage of close planting is that the trees grow up straight without forming many branches low down, and this very greatly facilitates tapping.

Pará rubber is a surface-feeding tree, and catch crops should not therefore be grown between the trees, which require all the nourishment that the soil can afford.

The young plants are greedily eaten by cattle, deer, hares, and other animals, and require careful protection for about eighteen months, after which time they are generally tall enough to require but little further protection.

Weeding is also required for the first year of two, but afterwards the trees form a dense shade, under which but few weeds grow.

The comparatively superficial growth of the roots renders manuring easy, and it would probably be found advantageous in poor or sandy soils.

#### RATE OF GROWTH.

The tree grows very rapidly in height. The original trees, planted at Henaratgoda in 1876, were about 30 ft. high and 14 in. in girth two years later. In 1885 the largest tree was 50 ft. high and 25 in. in girth at a yard from the ground. The girth of this largest tree was taken annually after this, with the following results. It was 30 in. in 1883, 36 in 1884, 43 in 1885, 49 in 1886, 53½ in 1887, 60 in 1888, 65 in 1889, 69¾ in 1890, 73 in 1891, and 79½ in 1893. The

girth of the largest tree measured in Brazil by Mr. Cross was 82 in.

The measurements above given are those of the largest tree. More useful data for scientific and practical purposes are obtained by taking the mean girth of all the trees on a considerable area. This was done in January, 1897, on the plantation made at Henaratgoda in 1876. This now consists of 45 trees, about 30 feet apart. The girth was taken at the height of the eye, about 5 feet 6 in. above the ground. The largest tree was 7 ft. 5 in. in girth. The mean girth was 4 ft. 1½ in.

In the plantations made by the forest department near Katnapura measurements were taken in December, 1894, of the mean girth of trees at 3 ft. from the ground, with the following results:—

At Edangoda (4 years old), mean of 100 trees	129½ in.
Do. (1 years old), do. 50 trees	87½ in.
Do. (2 years old), do. 20 trees	49 in.
At Yattipowa (3 years old), do. 105 trees	9½ in.
Do. (3 years old), do. 108 trees	9½ in.

The larger measurements at Yattipowa is that of trees on the western slope, the smaller that of trees on the eastern slope. The difference appears to be due to the fact that the latter are exposed to wind.

#### TAPPING.

The yield of rubber from very young or slender trees is too small to make their tapping worth while, and it is best for many reasons to abstain from tapping a tree until it has reached a girth of two feet. In a large plantation the girth of the trees always varies between wide limits. A few trees may be fit to tap after the sixth year, and in every subsequent year more and more trees will reach the size necessary. In favourable localities the bulk of the trees should be in bearing before the end of the eleventh year. The results of the experiments hitherto made at Henaratgoda go to show that it is inadvisable, having regard to the future, to tap trees of less than two feet in girth, but it is still an open question whether the minimum size of trees for tapping should not be fixed even higher. This, however, would, of course, necessitate longer waiting for the return, as the mean rate of increase of girth in trees of this size is only about three inches per annum.

The methods of tapping and of coagulation of the rubber employed by the native collectors in Brazil and elsewhere are rough, wasteful, and inefficient, and there is great room for improvement. Experiments are being made at Henaratgoda to test methods of tapping and coagulation, and their results will form the subject of a subsequent circular. At present we shall only describe the method which has been employed for some years in the tapping carried on at Henaratgoda.

The requisites for the work are a ¾-in. chisel, a wooden mallet, a number of clean cocoanut shells each cut in two so as to form small basins, a knife, and a supply of clay and water with which to form the gutters round the trees.

The tree is first carefully and lightly shaved with the knife from a height of about 6 ft. down to the ground, so as to form a perfectly smooth surface. Only the outermost layers of the bark must be removed in this process, otherwise the tree will be injured. When the shaving is completed, the tree may be polished by hand, or carefully brushed. The great object in view is to obtain a smooth and clean surface, over which the milk can run easily, without becoming contaminated by small particles of bark or other rubbish, as the market value of rubber depends on its cleanliness.

A clay gutter is next made round the tree about six inches above the ground, so arranged as to catch the milk which will trickle down the tree and empty it by two or more spouts into as many clean cocoanut shells placed below. Three shells are sufficient for a tree of 2 ft. 6 in. girth, but larger trees may require four or five. The gutter is made by rolling rather wet clay into a sausage form, between the hands, and then pressing it on to the bark, and

forming the channel against the bark by aid of a wet finger. The gutter must not be allowed to dry before the tapping is begun, otherwise the rubber will be contaminated by particles of clay; neither must the gutter be so wet or irregular as to allow the rubber to be dirtied.

(To be continued.)

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#### Missing Friends.

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From *The Arizona Kicker*.

## A BUSY WEEK.

While there is always plenty of amusement to occupy the time of an Arizona editor last week was a particularly busy one for us. As we reached the office Monday morning we were handed a note from Mr. Horace Yates, manager of the Great Arizona Irrigation company, in which he called us a liar for some remarks made on the editorial page the week before. We at once mounted our cayuse and rode out to the office of the company and asked for an interview with Mr. Yates. He was surprised at our prompt response. He had lived most of his days in the east, where you can call an editor a liar every day in the week without bringing a response. When we put the muzzle of a gun to his right eye and asked him to look down the barrel and discover Ananias, he failed to find that celebrated character and made the most ample apologies. We took his subscription to the *Kicker* for the year 1897 and rode away, leaving him with a far-away look in his eyes.

Tuesday afternoon old Jim Wheeler made a bet of \$5 with some of the boys at the Red Front saloon that he could scare us out of our sanctum. We had just seated ourselves at the editorial desk when he kicked the door open, uttered a yell that would have clipped the ears of a bulldog and opened fire on the clock, the plaster bust of Romeo and whatever else seemed to be a likely target. Mr. Wheeler ought to have known better. The doctor has succeeded in getting the bullet out of his hip, but it will be long weeks before he can walk, and then he will have to swing his right leg in half a circle to the end of his days. No; Mr. Wheeler will never chase the bounding antelope again, and as he has no wings to fly with he feels badly cut up about it.

Wednesday morning a copy of *The Kicker*, addressed to Colonel Joe. King at White Horse ranch, was returned to us marked, "Refused—go to grass." We slipped 30 extra cartridges into our pocket and galloped out there. Any subscriber to *The Kicker* can stop his paper at any time, but we insist on a personal interview and a reasonable explanation. The colonel was expecting us. We found him in a rifle pit in front of his house and the way he fusilladed us beat an ordinary Fourth of July. After a bit, however, we reached a spot which overlooked his position, and he had to come out. His excuse for stopping his paper was that he was getting near-sighted, but after a little talk he subscribed for an extra copy to send to his mother, who hasn't been able to read for the last 10 years, and we parted the best of friends.

Thursday evening our esteemed contemporary heard that we had finally received the appointment of postmaster for this town, which was a baseless rumor, and he got so worked up over the matter that he borrowed a gun and started out to look for us. He found us in front of the Silver King hotel and snapped his old revolver all around the circle before he discovered that it wasn't loaded. It was the same to us, however, as he couldn't do anybody any damage except with a pitchfork. We rolled him through a mud puddle and headed him for home, where he sat down and wrote a dispatch to a Chicago paper to the effect that we had made our seventh attempt to assassinate him.

Friday forenoon we missed our office dictionary, and upon making inquiry learned that it had been taken away by the county clerk. We went over to his office to get it back, and some hard words were exchanged. He punched our left eye, and we chewed his left ear. Later on he apologized for his conduct and bought a beefsteak for our optic, while we sent our own surgeon to fix up his ear.

Saturday opened auspiciously—that is a man named Glover, who lives over near Blue Hen creek called at *The Kicker* office to shoot us for publishing an article to the effect that he had been hanged for horse stealing. As we didn't happen to be in, our agricultural editor disarmed and booted him out doors. Just

before noon four cowboys rode into town and began to paint things red, and while we were assisting the city marshal to discourage them we got a bullet through our arm. We had scarcely finished the noonday meal when we were served with notice of a libel suit, with damages at \$20,000, and we wended our way to the office of Lawyer Henderson to demand further particulars. He received us in a haughty spirit and reached for his gun. We reached for him. It was a mixed up affair for about 10 minutes, but when we finally got on top Mr. Henderson was perfectly willing to explain matters. Not only that but he expressed his desire to discourage his client from going any further in the case, and we let him up and took a drink with him. Saturday evening old John Simcoe, who used to run this part of the country, objected to our wearing a red necktie on a moonlight night and started to shoot it off our neck. In the row we lost considerable whiskers and had two teeth knocked out but there is no question about our coming out ahead. People who have an idea that an Arizona editor has nothing to do but sit on a hair-cloth sofa in a boudoir and dictate to congress how the affairs of the nation shall be managed, have got a wrong conception of the situation.

## THE MAINE EXPLOSION.

The following is a summary of the conclusions of the naval commission appointed to investigate the causes of the destruction of the United States armored cruiser *Maine* in the harbor of Havana on February 15th last, by which the lives of 261 men and two officers were lost. The report was telegraphed to the Argentine papers, and was translated from Spanish into English by some of our Buenos Aires colleagues. The following summary is from the translation of the Buenos Aires *Standard*, which it must be remembered, is not the full report nor an exact reproduction of its language.

After a detailed study of the declarations, the Court arrives at the following conclusions:

Section One.—That the *Maine* arrived at the port of Havana on the 25th January and was attached to buoy No. 4 in a depth of 5 1/2 to 6 fathoms, by a government pilot. The consul-general gave due notice of her arrival to the Havana authorities.

Section Two.—The discipline on board the *Maine* was excellent, all orders touching upon the safety of the vessel were strictly carried out, and all ammunition stowed away in accordance with the regulations. Special care was taken, and whenever ammunition was handled nothing was ever stowed away except in accordance with orders. All ammunition stores were inspected after having been opened. After the explosion the keys were found in their proper place in the Captain's cabin. The result of enquiries was that on the night of the explosion the temperature in the magazines, which is taken daily, was normal. The only magazine where the temperature was above the normal was the one containing projectiles for the 10 in. guns and that one was not blown up.

At the moment of the explosion the torpedoes were stowed aft, and neither occasioned nor contributed to the catastrophe. The gun-cotton was stowed at some distance from the spot where the explosion took place. Varnishes, spirits and other combustibles were stowed between decks and had nothing to do with the explosion.

The boiler was inspected daily. As regards the bunkers adjacent to the fore magazines four were employed, viz. B, 3, 4, 5 and 6. That day coal was being drawn from A 15.

The coal bunker that was full was always accessible from three sides, and had been inspected the same day.

At the time of the explosion the two after steam boilers were working, but only at low pressure. These boilers did not cause the explosion. The four forward boilers were found in perfect condition.

On the night of the catastrophe everything was in perfect order for the night.

At the time of the explosion the vessel was perfectly quiet, and it is therefore, impossible to attribute the disaster to any movement on board.

Section Three.—After stating the exact time of the explosion and the exact location of the ship, goes on to say: "There were two distinct explosions with a very short, but well defined interval between. The first was marked by all the characteristics of a mine charged with gunpowder, and lifted the bow of the ship to a considerable height. The second explosion was caused by the blowing up of part of the contents of two or more of the magazines."

Section Four.—States that it is impossible to exactly describe the condition of the forward part of the hull; however, the after part may be said to be intact. The protective deck and other decks, between frames 30 and 41, also the forward or main bridge were blown up by the force of the explosion of the magazines.

Section Five.—Contains some important statements as follows: "The part of frame 17 which in its normal condition lies just above and within six feet of the keel, was blown

upward and stands four feet out of water, or thirty-four feet above its normal position. The outer plates of the bottom are broken inward and turned up in the form of an inverted V, the rupture extending along for some thirty feet, fore and aft between frames 17 and 25, and being some fifteen feet across at the after end. The bottom plates at the rupture are only six feet below water and some thirty feet above their normal position. The members of the Court are firmly of the opinion that this destruction could have been produced in no other way than by a mine exploding under the bottom of the ship on the port side near frame 18."

Section Six.—States that the officers and men of the ship are in no way liable for the loss of the ship, either through negligence or otherwise.

Section Seven.—says: "The Court is of the opinion that the ship was destroyed by a submarine mine which caused a partial explosion of the contents of two or more of the magazines."

Section Eight.—This is the closing section and simply says that in the opinion of the Court the explosion was caused by the acts of a person or persons to them unknown.

Here follow the signatures of Captain William T. Sampson, president of the Court, and Lieutenant Commander A. Morix, the judge advocate. Also a short note by Admiral Seward approving the finding.

## THE RIO NEWS

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

A. J. LAMOREUX, Editor and Proprietor.

Contains a summary of news and a review of Brazilian affairs, a list of the arrivals and departures of foreign vessels, the commercial report and price current of the market, tables of stock quotations and sales, a summary of the daily coffee reports and all other information necessary to a correct judgment on Brazilian trade.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, APRIL 12th, 1898.

## NOTICE.

In view of the continued fall in exchange, the local currency subscription rate has been increased to 40000, or 800 reis per copy. Since March 1st all subscriptions should be paid at that rate.

ASIDE from the mutual insults and noisy declamations of the war parties on both sides, there are causes in the present dispute between the United States and Spain which deserve thoughtful consideration. We should be glad to see an honorable settlement of the controversy without an appeal to arms, for war can not fail to bring incalculable loss and misery to both nations. But if war can not be averted, then let the blame for it rest where it rightfully belongs. There seems to be a very general belief that the United States is wholly at fault in the dispute. It is assumed by some that war is sought to justify the forcible acquisition of the island of Cuba, and by others that the dispute is due to American meddlesomeness and aggressiveness. The "Munroe doctrine" is also dragged in and is made to figure as a reason for driving the Spaniard out of America altogether. All these are bare assumptions. There is a "jingo" element in the United States just as there is in Spain, and it is clamoring for war. But, noisy as it is, this element really represents a small fraction of the

population. Its greatest strength lies in the influence which it may be able to exert over the great mass of the people, who are led by their emotions rather than by facts and arguments. Make these honest and well-meaning people believe that an affront has been given them, or that a great wrong is being perpetrated at their doors, and you make them partisans of war at once; but let them once see that they have been deceived and that such a war would lead to incalculable injury, and that without credit or benefit to themselves, and you find them stubborn advocates of peace. The policy of President McKinley thus far has evidently been that of waiting until this preponderating element should have time to form a dispassionate judgment on the question. He has resisted threats and appeals of every description, and has uniformly declared his belief that a peaceful settlement of the dispute would be found. Against him we have the fervid oratory of congressmen and the sensational reports of unscrupulous newspapers, but he has evidently believed that in the end the better judgment of the people would be against war. In the event of war, however, is it true, as so often asserted, that the fault is wholly on the side of the Americans? Most certainly not! While we most sincerely deprecate this war, and while we believe that the dispute could be settled without an appeal to arms, it must at the same time be said that there are causes for popular indignation and resentment against Spain which it will be very difficult to ignore. We know full well what Spanish rule on this continent has been.

It has everywhere been stained by cruelty, rapine and bloodshed, and it has in every case been brought by exhausting wars. Cuba is now going through the same terrible experiences from which all these Spanish American countries have suffered. Twenty years ago there was war, and with it a record of ten years of cruelty, rapine and bad faith. The Cubans are determined to free themselves from the crushing tyranny of corrupt officials and an alien soldiery. If they fail now, ten years hence they will try again. Thousands of these revolutionists have been driven to the United States for an asylum against Spanish tyranny, and with them have gone the story of their wrongs. When a revolution breaks out, they are eager to help, and so are their American friends. And then the American government is obliged to police the coasts with deputy marshals, and the sea with naval vessels to stop the shipment of guns, cartridges and volunteers to Cuba. It is a repugnant as well as a thankless task, for every American feels in his heart that the Cuban ought to be free from so harsh a rule, and that his exiled brother ought to be permitted to help him win his liberty. Then there is the American investments in Cuba—all prejudiced, or ruined by these recurring revolutions; and, above all, the consciousness that the United States is called upon every few years to spend millions to do police duty to protect a corrupt and despotic government in Cuba. All this rankles and irritates, and it is not at all matter for surprise that Americans should suddenly resolve to put an end to it. There are but few who advocate annexation; the sole object of the many is to end a situation which has become intolerable. In view of what the great nations of Europe have done in Africa and Asia, and are now plotting to do in China, it ill becomes them to say that the United States is doing wrong. There is no "balance of power" on this side of the Atlantic to be consulted before determining whether a nation is to protect the oppressed, or aid the oppressor. Fortunately we can give practical effect to our sympathies and follow the dictates of our consciences without first consulting the political schemes of dynasties and ambitious rulers. Before condemning Americans for interfering in Cuba, to stop the savage warfare raging there, the civilized world would do well to inquire if no blame attaches to Spain for all the wrongs and sufferings imposed upon that unfortunate island throughout its whole history.

BRAZIL, is agitating the transformation into a state monopoly of the sale of coffee, rubber and tobacco, and limiting their export to the demand for actual consumption, as distinguished from speculative demand. It is believed that in the end this plan will result in increased sales as far as, at least, as value is concerned, and a greater production of rubber, silk, cotton, and cereals, together with increased activity in the vineyard, cattle raising, dairy and fishing industries. — *American Exchange*.

There have been occasional suggestions here of a state monopoly in the sale of coffee, and perhaps some other articles. There has also been a scheme mentioned in regard to state control of the exchange market. But they all came from irresponsible persons, were vague in details, and received no serious consideration anywhere. There is no agitation here in regard to such monopolies, nor do we believe that any considerable number of people would look upon them favorably. Official management has for some time been a decided failure in Brazil, and the tendency now is, if our observations are correct, decidedly against it. Then, too, an effort to create such monopolies would produce serious complications between the national and state governments, as the export duties on such products belong to the states, and in many instances constitute their principal source of revenue. The export duty on coffee is 11 per cent., and the states of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Minas Geraes and Espírito Santo derive almost their whole revenue from it. And in Pará, which lives upon the revenue from rubber, the export tax is 21 per cent. No monopoly would yield them any better result than this.

THE Tribunal de Cassation has annulled the sentence imposed on Zola, not for the shameful partiality and irregularity of the trial, but on the ground that ex-Minister Billot had no right to prosecute. The right to prosecute, says the tribunal, rests with the council of war. This is most unsatisfactory, as it leaves the irregular proceedings of the lower court and the arbitrary pretensions of the military, quite untouched. There is unquestionably a scandalous military intrigue behind the Dreyfus case, and it ought to be brought to light. The latest development is to the effect that an Italian officer, Col. Panzardi, who was military attaché at the Italian legation in Paris at the time of the Dreyfus trial, has delivered to the Italian government a report, accompanied by documents, demonstrating the innocence of ex-Capt. Dreyfus. It is said that King Humbert, according to Emperor William, has taken the matter up in order to induce the French government to release Dreyfus from an unjust degradation and imprisonment. It is probable, however, that no influence will be strong enough to counteract the infinite obstinacy of the officers who fear to have their shameful intrigue unmasked. The latest news is that the council of war has resolved to prosecute Zola.

OUR São Paulo correspondent asks "by what right the United States can appoint a time within which the Cuban civil war is to be brought to a close by one of the parties to it." We might answer—by the same right that England took possession of Egypt and its exercising oversight in the affairs of Afghanistan by the same right that Italy sought to improve her Abyssinian boundaries; by the same right that France sought to introduce peace and order into Malagasy; by the same right that Germany has secured a port and control over a province in China; and by the same right that the allied powers meddled in the settlement of the war between China and Japan, in the Greco-Turkish war, in the war between Greece and Turkey, in the management of the finances of Greece, in the Armenian atrocities, and in the subdivision of Africa. It is the right of self-interest. Then there is the right of humanity—the termination of a struggle which is characterized by exceptional cruelty, and threatens to become a war of extermination. Then there is another phase of the right of self-interest—the determination to end a state of things which entails fruitless expense upon the United States in the maintenance of police and naval patrol along an extended coast simply because Spain can no longer maintain her power over Cuba without constantly recurring wars. It is practically the same right that a citizen has to interfere in the private affairs of a disorderly neighbor, whose conduct has become a public nuisance and a menace to the peace of the neighborhood.

#### BANCO DA REPUBLICA.

The president of the Banco da Republica in his report for 1897 classifies the last five years as the most gloomy period in the financial history of Brazil. He thinks, however, that the acutest stage of the crisis has now been passed, and he expresses the hope that, with decreased importation and increased production, the situation will gradually improve.

The net profits of the bank amounted last year to 9,945,965\$42, against 11,295,436\$021 in 1896 and 10,651,938\$66 in 1895.

The deposits on account current during the three years were as follows:

1895.....	741,395,423\$162
1896.....	958,230,762\$735
1897.....	1,105,679,545\$537

At the close of the year the balance of this account was 92,516,611\$551, against 71,387,632\$223 at the end of 1896 and 76,173,992\$993 at the end of 1895.

The following statement shows the cash receipts and disbursements for the three years:

Receipts	Disbursements
1895.....	1,219,874,745\$242
1896.....	1,216,516,742\$154
1897.....	1,470,357,443\$334
1895.....	1,457,531,158\$347
1896.....	1,470,357,443\$334
1897.....	1,518,740,991\$741
1895.....	1,517,716,090\$165

The cash balance at the end of 1897 was 28,904,534\$165, against 25,879,642\$589 at the end of 1896 and 38,705,927\$536 at the end of 1895.

The transactions in exchange during the three years is shown by the following statement:

1895.....	£ 15,017,000
1896.....	17,162,000
1897.....	10,730,354

The profit on these transactions in 1897, says the president, was insignificant and was not even carried to the profit and loss account.

The loss sustained during the year in the settlement of accounts in liquidation was 25,828,319\$416. The special reserve fund, from which this loss was deducted, amounted in 1895 to 55,204,774\$533, being reduced at the end of 1896 to 47,390,902\$331 and at the end of 1897 to 16,561,582\$915.

The president thinks that the position of the bank is stronger than it was and that hereafter, not being forced to dispose of its assets within a limited time in order to meet its obligations, it may hope to avoid heavy losses.

The following is a statement of the value of the bills discounted by the bank during the three years:

1895.....	100,788,655\$658
1896.....	126,517,298\$493
1897.....	129,554,421\$386

The capital of the bank has been reduced to 113,021,600\$ and will shortly, says the president, be reduced to 110,000,000\$.

The reduction of its debt to the government is stated to be 99,548,858\$727, its present debt being 91,670,149\$873. This reduction was made, as our readers are aware, by the transfer of certain assets.

The following statement shows the reduction that has been made in some of its assets since 1895:

Amount in 1895.....	120,968,108\$000
" " 1897.....	74,552,155\$000
Reduction.....	56,416,153\$000

Accounts in liquidation:

Amount in 1895.....	36,071,512\$000
" " 1897.....	13,553,857\$000
Reduction.....	22,517,655\$000

Guaranteed accounts current:

Amount in 1895.....	314,921,650\$000
" " 1897.....	140,897,411\$000
Reduction.....	174,024,239\$000

The nominal value of the collaterals deposited as security for the accounts current has been reduced from 506,149,057\$ to 349,657,319\$.

From the foregoing it appears that during the two years the bank disposed of assets of the three classes amounting to 252,958,047\$. What liabilities it contracted with the product of these assets beyond the debt of 99,548,858\$727 to the government, is not apparent. The remaining assets belonging to the three classes amount to 228,621,955\$.

The usual dividend of 6 per cent. was declared.

From the *Paz*, April 8th.

#### AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FORTIFICATION.

In the excavations which are being made in the building No. 25 Rua Visconde de Itaboraí, where Messrs. Gomes de Castro & Filho are established in the business of *armazém* and hardware, have been found the remains of a fortification solidly constructed and which extends to the Becco da Bragança. On these walls was found day before yesterday an iron cannon of small calibre and greatly rusted.

In the same street, in building No. 12, the establishment of Messrs. João Remaldo Coutinho & Co., there also exists an arched covered gallery, constructed of masonry, about 12 metres in length, and all implying that it is a dependency of the fort whose battery has just been uncovered. This gallery was reached by a stone staircase destroyed about a year ago.

It will not be difficult to disclose the origin of this fortification, because there exists a minute report upon the fortified places in Brazil published in the *Revista do Instituto Historico*.

The old residents of Rio de Janeiro know that not so long ago the sea washed the Rua da Candelaria; the spot now occupied by the Cruz dos Milhares church was fortified; the Lapa dos Mercadores church was a rock

partially in the sea and the old city palace had landing steps.

All this section was provided at various epochs with walls on which pieces of artillery were mounted for defending the city of Rio de Janeiro; but these works disappeared with the made lands (*aterros*) which were wrested from the sea, and almost nothing of interest remains of their history.

The discovered battery ought not to be very old, although there was great confidence in the Fortaleza de Nossa Senhora da Guia, to the Santa Cruz, already armed at the end of the 16th century and so well garrisoned that it prevented the entrance of the squadron of the Dutch admiral Van North and in 1710 the blockade by Duclere's expedition.

It is probable, therefore, that it was constructed after 1730, when, after the invasion of Duguay-Trouin, a royal edict ordered the governors of Rio de Janeiro that they should undertake the fortification of the port, these orders being completed by the viceroys Comde da Cunha, Marquês do Lavradio and Comde de Resende, the forts of Pico, Praia do Forno and others being then erected.

Let the historians speak of the discovery: we will limit ourselves to the news, which was terminated by the intervention of the authorities. Major Mello, *delegado* of the 1st *circumscripção*, sent official notice to the chief of police, relating the fact, who, for his part, ordered that the cannon found should be delivered to the minister of war.

#### COFFEE NOTES.

—The quantity of coffee exported last year from the state of S. Paulo was 6,031,000 bags.

—The length of the railways in operation in the state of S. Paulo at the end of last year was 3,105 kilometres.

From the *American Greener*, February 25.

#### THE 1897 COFFEE TRADE.

The latest corrected official report of the commerce of the United States gives full details of imports and exports for the calendar year. From this we find that the imports of coffee in 1897 were the largest for any year in the history of the trade, exceeding those for 1896 by 176,046,937 pounds, or an increase of 28 per cent. The total imports reached 806,048,539 pounds, valued at \$75,687,676. The exports of coffee were 18,437,154 pounds, valued at \$2,271,897, or more than double the exports in 1896.

The following statement shows imports, exports, and net imports (generally reckoned as consumption):

	Pounds.
Imports, 1897.....	806,048,539
Exports, 1897.....	18,437,154
Net imports or consumption in 1897.....	785,561,385
Net imports or consumption in 1896.....	621,129,661
Gain over 1896.....	166,131,724
Average import cost per pound, 1897, 9.32 cents.	
Average import cost per pound, 1896, 12.66 cents.	

The above shows an average cost for the year of 9.32 cents per pound. In December the average cost of imports was 6.86 cents per pound, against 11.28 cents in December, 1896, which figures show more fully the extent of the drop in the cost of coffee, and one, and probably the chief reason for the increase in imports.

The consumption of coffee per capita is now about ten pounds, and is likely to increase if low prices continue for the next two years, as now seems probable.

The imports were received from the following countries:

	Pounds
Brazil.....	611,372,219
Other South American countries.....	81,131,888
Central American States.....	41,121,629
Mexico.....	34,330,631
East Indies.....	16,969,334
West Indies.....	9,968,850
Other Asia and Oceania.....	5,767,193
Germany.....	4,592,597
Netherlands.....	2,557,395
Other European countries.....	1,766,821
United Kingdom.....	1,692,122
France.....	261,251
Africa.....	36,805
All other countries.....	1,250,804
Total.....	806,048,539

Equivalent to 6,106,427 bags of 132 pounds, or 6,200,373 bags of 130 pounds.

New York Coffee Exchange report, 5,818,772 bags.

This difference between the Exchange report is due to the arbitrary reduction into bags of 130 pounds, of bales, mats, casks, or other packages, or to errors which may arise from transposition from one port to another.

The imports from Mexico were nearly double those in 1896, while the Central American states show a gain of 4,599,040 pounds, or 10 per cent., over 1896. The supply from

Brazil exceeds that of the previous year by 153,768,460 pounds, or over 31 per cent. Less than 4 per cent. of the imports came from Asia and Europe, or in other words, about 2 1/2 to 3 per cent. of the total imports can be classed as Java coffee, which designation covers all Sumatra coffee.

The above statements indicate the results of the rapid extension of the industry in Mexico and Central and South America. Precipitous prices cannot be remunerative to the majority of planters, and this will tend to check any further extension of coffee planting on a large scale.

#### PROVINCIAL NOTES.

—The formal opening of the state assembly of São Paulo occurred on the 7th inst.

—The Russian minister, accompanied by his wife, arrived in São Paulo on the 6th inst. on a visit to that State.

—In the S. Paulo chamber of deputies there has been introduced a bill granting to Campos Salles a seven months' leave of absence.

—Senator João Cordeiro has been removed from the marine hospital at Bahia to Mariporá. He is accompanied by one of the officers of the *Andaraí*.

—Among the Spaniards in S. Paulo up to Friday 270 volunteers had been enrolled for the Spanish army and 11,092 had been subscribed for war expenses.

—"The exodus continues," says a telegram of the 5th inst. from Ceará. "Yesterday the packet *Olinda* left for the north with 700 passengers, the *Beberibe* with 230 and the *Guajará* with 130."

—Senator João Cordeiro has been removed, on account of illness, from the cruiser *Andaraí* to the marine hospital at Bahia. It is now said that his illness is not hereditary, as was at first supposed.

—The Spanish residents of São Paulo have opened a patriotic subscription, and also a recruiting office for the Spanish army. About 200 volunteers have been registered, and it is expected that 500 will be obtained.

—On the 8th inst. a hawk-keeper, Sr. Henrique Fernandes Antunes, was knocked down and robbed in Pará by a soldier of the 4th battalion of artillery. The soldier was arrested and had Antunes' watch in his possession.

—A Pernambuco telegram says that the governor of that state denies that the island of Fernando de Noronha is a place of detention for common criminals, although the decree to that effect was published in the *Diário Oficial* of 13th August.

—The little village of Floriano Peixoto, formerly Antunary, is again heard of. It is a small, out-of-the-world place, but its municipal council managed to collect 128,238\$271 in taxes during the month of February, and to pay the town officials the sum of 63,000\$.

—The *Diário Popular* says that there were 1,694 buildings erected in the city of São Paulo last year, the total number on the prefall tax list at the end of the year being increased to 20,544. This list does not include to public edifices belonging to the municipality, to the state and to the nation.

—The papal intercommunion, Monsenhor Macchi, is expected to leave São Paulo to-day on his return to Petropolis. According to a telegram of the 6th he has informed the editor of the *Tribuna Italiana* that he believes war to be inevitable between Spain and the United States, and that the intervention of the Pope will be fruitless.

—According to the message of Vice President Peixoto Comde there arrived last year in the state of S. Paulo 70,533 immigrants, of whom 825 were on their way to Minas Geraes. Of the remainder, 66,181 came on account of the state government of S. Paulo, 735 on account of the general government and 2,399 spontaneously.

—On the night of the 2nd inst. at Porto Alegre the furniture factory of Kappel & Imhof and six small houses adjoining it were destroyed by fire. The value of the machinery is estimated at 157,000\$ and that of the furniture destroyed at 152,000\$. The insurance was 150,000\$. A subscription has been opened for the 300 operatives thrown out of employment.

—A controversy has arisen in Rio Grande between the state and federal authorities over the arrest of one Bernardino Motta for arrest committed during the revolution. The governor has resolved to arrest Motta but Gen. Carlos Telles, the commandant of the district in which Motta resides, opposes the act because of the amnesty conceded by the national government.

—It is noteworthy that President elect Campos Salles is holding on to the office of governor of São Paulo, and is about to ask for licence to leave the state. It can hardly be right for a man to hold an office under such circumstances, for he has practically given up one in order to accept the other. By holding on to the first, he justifies the suspicion that he is doing so for the salary.

S. PAULO FACTS AND FANCIES.

When I take my haughty stand beneath the banner with that strange device "Order and Progress," typified by a globe which our glorious republic has kicked higher than a kite—so high, indeed, that it is depicted as sailing among the pretty stars, sailing round the moon—I ask my beating heart, why—oh, why—am I to make myself hoarse with bawling "Viva a republica!"

Is it because everyday's report brings us fresh examples of the blessings and advantages of republican government? Is it, for instance, in France, whence Liberty has just been kicked out of the land with cavalry boots; where justice has dropped her scales, unbalanced her eyes, and taken the sword in both hands? or in Brazil, where, after about nine years of republican administration, we have to show in the way of order, chiefly a list of states of siege, riots, revolutions, political conspiracy and assassinations, street murder rampant, and thieves in high places unpunished? In the way of health—in spite of huge expenditures—cities decimated by fever, and in a few cases almost abandoned by their inhabitants; in the way of commercial progress, an exchange well under sixpence, and a possible national suspension of payments?

Nevertheless we cry "Viva a Republica!" just as we say to a friend whom the doctors have given up, "Good bye, old chap; hope you will soon be all right again!"

Let us, however, comfort ourselves by calling to mind that the beauty of our glorious constitution; namely the fact that the central government can go through the court, while the individual states may be rolling in money—like the state of Pará, for example, it is a limited liability style of constitution. Certain sources of revenue are apportioned by it to the central government, to be applied to meeting the national expenditure. If it be not enough, then the states are very sorry, but they cannot help it, and they cannot cry. If the country must become bankrupt, *patencia!* The states, for their share, receive more "spending brass" than they well know what to do with; but they do not complain. They spend it like men; keep their poor but influential relations on it, build one thousand five hundred conto bridges over puddles with it, open *saneamento* waste pipes, and deluge them with it, put up "normal schools" on a magnificent scale with it, "chuck" about, and get rid of it, to the accompaniment of fireworks, *brindes*, and bands of music. The consequence is that S. Paulo, for instance, which a year or two back had many thousands of contos to the good in its coffers, is now said to be giving bills to its creditors, and even making its meritorious poor relations aforesaid, the sons and daughters of the horseflesh, wait for their salaries!

The truth seems to be that in our case neither monarchism nor republicanism availeth anything. It is nepotism and vote nursing that are the curse of Brazil. The country is all right, and the constitution quite good enough for a republic. It is *men* that are wanted. This is known in London, the Brazilian's Tongue's ground, just as well as we know it here. People here are crying out for suspension; and, as things are going, the sickest among us may live to see it. But if the country would ask London for an honest and capable financier, let him bring his own staff of assistants, and give him full powers, they would get their twelve millions, or twenty-four millions if they wanted it, to-morrow; and in five years be minting specie currency. Look at Egypt!

Meantime, let us, I say, be comforted, Brazil at the worst will only be "broke," as a limited liability concern. The states as a body—the shareholders—are solvent enough, and have only to discharge their unprofitable servants to be rich.

RE THE UNITED STATES AND ANOTHER V. SPAIN.

Will any of your readers inform me by what right, other than that of the strongest, the United States can appoint a time within which the Cuban civil war is to be brought to a close by one of the parties to it, Cuba being as much a part of the Spanish dominions as Long Island is of the United States? I ask simply because I do not know. I have never once seen in any newspaper article or telegram, or heard in any conversation, the slightest attempt to discuss the matter from the point of view of right and justice.

The *Maine* catastrophe, I submit, has nothing to do with the case; because, though it aggravated the situation, that situation existed prior to its occurrence. The *Maine* disaster, any way, was likely to prove a greater disaster to Spain, if it desired to avoid a war in which it had nothing to gain and everything to lose, than to the States. It is therefore fair to assume that, all moral considerations aside, the Spanish government had no part in such an act of suicidal folly.

If, however, it be permissible for the United States to take it for granted without direct evidence, that the *Maine* was criminally destroyed, and further that the Spanish government connived at its destruction, then the Spaniards may with equal plausibility assume that the filibustering expeditions, conveying arms and munitions of war to the Cuban insurgents, were also secretly connived at by

the United States government. The propositions are parallel, and what is true of the one is true of the other. Then the filibustering expeditions must have cost thousands of lives to the Spaniards, where the *Maine* explosion cost hundreds; and the interest of the United States government if it desired to annex Cuba, was to foment and encourage the insurrection.

The States have interests in Cuba to which the continuance of the war is detrimental. Granted. But, during the American rebellion, which, I think, lasted longer than the Cuban rebellion up to date, many nations' interests were prejudiced; yet in what light would the Northern States have regarded an intimation, addressed to themselves by any outside nation, to terminate the war within a fixed term?

The States claimed, and obtained, from the British government, £3,000,000 in satisfaction for damages caused by the negligence of the British government in allowing the *Alabama* to escape, and join the service of the Confederates. If this was right and just,—and international arbiters decided that it was so,—what, then, is right and justice in the matter of the United States government's negligence in allowing the filibustering expeditions to escape?

I understand that the classes in the United States who are the best educated, most liberal and most intelligent, and who have the most to lose, are strongly averse to the projected war which is being mainly supported by classes in the opposite conditions. If this be so, and the war, after all, be declared and waged as a mere war of conquest and annexation, in what respect will Republicanism, in its highest and best form, have shown itself in this matter, regarded from the point of view of right and justice, superior to a despotism such as that of Russia under the rule of Catherine de Medici?

I am not intentionally pleading in favor of Spain. The Spaniards are a people with whom it is difficult to sympathize. Their history is identified with the iniquities of the Holy Inquisition, with tyranny and misgovernment of every kind. As a people they have the reputation of being proud, cruel, and treacherous. The sympathy of Englishmen turns naturally to the United States; and it may well be that the talk of interference of the triple alliance on behalf of Spain might have come to something but for the certainty that England would be found on the opposite side. The world expects that the Anglo-Saxon republic will show a bright example, but Justice and Right have no country; their principles are eternal and cosmopolitan; and unless questions such as have been here roughly formulated be found capable of easy and satisfactory answer by Americans, it is hard to believe that there will be any war.

NICODEMUS DEWROP.

S. Paulo, 8th April, 1898.

RAILROAD NOTES

—On Thursday the Companhia Carris Ceabanos dismissed one of its conductors for insulting a lady.

—It is stated that the government has declined not to accept any of the tenders for the lease of the extension of the Bahia and S. Francisco railway.

—The receipts and shipments of merchandise at the Central, Gamba and S. Diogo stations of the Central railway during the quarter ended on the 31st ult. amounted to 186,753,005 kilos, against 186,123,825 kilos in the last quarter of 1897.

—In 1897 the trains of the Botanical Garden Co. carried 23,725,083 paying and 1,241,090 non-paying passengers, making a total of 24,966,173. Of the non-paying passengers 477,650 were employed in the service of the company. The number who had season tickets was as follows:

100 reis fares.....	1,102,396
200 " " .....	55,769
300 " " .....	15,721
	1,173,796

The number without season tickets was as follows:

100 reis fares.....	20,138,702
200 " " .....	2,371,278
300 " " .....	42,307
	22,552,287

The receipts from passengers amounted to 2,629,985\$94 and the receipts from baggage 188,682\$50, making a total of 2,818,668\$44. The expenses amounted to 2,389,738\$30.

SHIPPING NOTES

—On her return voyage the Royal Mail steamer *Thames* will receive passengers and mails only at this port.

—The minister of industry has extended the time for receiving tenders for the river steamer ship service between Montevideo and Cuyabá (Matto Grosso) to the 10th of May.

—A telegram of the 8th inst. reports the American cruiser *Cincinnati* aground at Pine Island near Cuba, and will probably be total loss. The report, however, has not been confirmed.

—Brazil is to be represented at Lisbon next month on the occasion of the festivities in commemoration of the discovery of India by Vasco da Gama, by the ironclad *Aquidaban*, which will then be on her way home.

—It is said that important negotiations are in progress between the United States legation here and the Brazilian government, and one of our colleagues says that it refers not only to the purchase of the *Nithery*, but to that of other Brazilian naval vessels.

—A Washington telegram of the 7th says that the *Oregon*, Philadelphia, Charleston and *Monadnock*, now on the China station, have been ordered to unite with the Atlantic squadron. The monitor *Monadnock* is expected to stop for a short time in the Straits of Magellan.

—Minister Bryan and his military secretary paid a visit to the steamer *Nithery* on Saturday last, and it is said they found everything in good order. The *Nithery* has been for some time used as a school ship for the naval apprentices, who have been transferred to Cobras Island while the fate of the ship is being decided.

—The *Fritz* is now consulting itself with the sale of the *Nithery* to the United States. It justifies the dictator's purchase of that ship, because the *Fritz* feels that the United States would not purchase it if it were not a staunch and service able vessel. The compliment is somewhat forced, but we trust Secretary Long will make a note of it.

—The New York World, says a telegram of the 6th, publishes a declaration of a Mr. Gibbins, or Gibbins of London, to the effect that several mines were placed in Havana bay in 1896, and that one of them contained 500 pounds of gun cotton. He says that the Spanish officers who knew of them, could be the only ones to explode them. If true, this declaration is important.

—We had no idea that our suggestion would be taken so seriously. A Washington telegram of the 6th says that Uncle Sam has purchased the cruiser *Nithery* from Brazil. Is it possible that the naval authorities at Washington are not aware that the said cruiser is a merchant steamer converted into a gun bearing ship? She might do for a transport, but in a fight she would cut a very poor figure.

—We understand that draft copies of the contract by which the United States purchased two warships from the Brazilian government were yesterday submitted to and signed by Mr. Henry White, representing the United States, and by the Brazilian minister to England. The *Sun* states that the price for one cruiser, the *Amazonas*, already in commission under the Brazilian flag, is £290,000. The other vessel, the *Amirante Abreu*, is now being constructed in the yards of Sir William Armstrong, and will be transferred to the American government on completion. The news shows that the United States is earnest in immediately strengthening her navy.

Financial News.

LOCAL NOTES

—There were received last year at the necroterio (mortuary) in this city 531 corpses.

—The artillery for the cruiser *Amirante Tamandaré* arrived from Europe last Tuesday.

—The Italian minister, Count Antonelli, has taken up his residence at Hotel Itamaraty, Tijuca.

—It is interesting to note how much more sensational is the cable news received by way of Buenos Ayres, than that by way of Europe. Why is it?

—On Thursday and Friday both here and in other Brazilian cities the attendance at the churches is reported to have been unusually large. This will interest the positivists.

—Another application for *habas corpus* in favor of parties accused of complicity in the murder of Marshal Bittencourt, has been presented to the supreme court. It looks a little like trifling with that court.

—On Friday in the S. Francisco de Paula church some of the curtains took fire and quite a panic was created in the congregation. In the crush that ensued several persons were injured. The loss caused by the fire, which was speedily extinguished, is estimated at about 5,000\$.

—In view of the impending difficulties between Spain and the United States, Senaiwet says that he has decided to suspend remittances to his foreign creditors for the moment. He fears that the cash will be picked up by some roving cruiser and then diverted to sanguinary objects.

—The police surely must know that the retention of money and valuables taken from arrested persons is criminal. There is no distinction between such a crime and highway robbery—and yet it is of daily occurrence! Surely the minister of justice can find some way to check such abuses!

—Dr. Nicanor do Nascimento has again applied to the supreme court for a writ of *habas corpus* in favor of the prisoners Fortunato de Medeiros and Joaquim Freire. He alleges that without any warrant for their arrest they are held in custody in a prison used for common criminals.

—On Tuesday last the civil and criminal court confirmed the indictment of the persons accused of the murder of Col. Gentil de Castro.

—The *Journal do Brazil* of the 10th says that in treasury circles it was said on Saturday that the minister of finance would issue orders on Monday for the prosecution of Dr. Rimes de Souza, director of the mint, for having obtained supplies to the aggregate of 20,000\$ without competent authorization. This is a common irregularity in every public department.

—It is a matter of sincere regret that the *Journal do Brazil* is giving so much attention to personalities, as it is causing a great deal of confusion. One generally expects to recognize a man from his portrait, but this is apparently not the object of the *Journal's* artist. At the same time we fully appreciate our neighbor's enterprise, and would be delighted to see it bear better fruit.

—On the 4th inst. Prosecuting Attorney Sampaio Vianna asked for the indictment of Vice-President Manoel Victorino, Doceliano Maty, Velloso, Noya, Moreira, Unbelliano Pacheco, Teixeira Franca, Antonio Evaristo da Rocha, Fortunato de Medeiros and Joaquim Freire, who are accused of the murder of Marshal Bittencourt, of attempting to kill President Prudente de Moraes and of wounding Col. Luiz Mendes de Moraes.

—An Italian named Svanzi tried to liquidate a breach of trust and heavy debt, on the 7th inst., by shooting himself in the house of his creditor, Sr. A. Florita. Before committing the crime, he wrote several letters, and even prepared a telegram for Sr. Florita to send to his friends in Bahia advising them of the suicide and promising to pay the suicide's debts. There is certainly something out of gear in this man's mental operations.

—Smailwet says that in view of the approaching suspension of interest payments on our foreign debt, he has resolved to suspend the payment of both principal and interest on all his personal obligations until the government resumes. He says it is not patriotic for the individual to be more honest and conscientious than the government under which he lives, and as it is his first duty to support all public acts of that government he must therefore follow its lead and defend its acts.

—The United States minister to Brazil, Mr. Charles Page Bryan, accompanied by his secretary of legation, Mr. Thomas C. Dawson, and his military attaché, Lieut. James A. Shiplin, was formally presented to President Prudente de Moraes yesterday, on which occasion Minister Bryan presented his credentials and the well wishes of the United States government for the peace and prosperity of Brazil. The President replied in cordial terms, expressing his sincere desire for the continuation of the existing friendly relations between the two countries.

—Good Friday's night almost be considered a misnomer, considering the number and heinousness of the crimes committed on that day. The trouble is that when José and Antonio and Augusto get a holiday, they invariably make for some suburban resort where they drink and kick up a disturbance. They have no other idea of enjoyment, and they apparently have no idea of what courtesy or good behavior means. When one meets them on the trams, at the hotels, or in the pretty places about the city, the thought invariably arises that it is a mistake to create holidays for such rowdies.

—The *Germania*, of São Paulo, informs us of the latest miracle worked by one of the erudite inventors in the employ of the Hayas Agency. This time the city of Budapest, which has heretofore been entirely contented with its inland geographical position, has been removed by a Hvas correspondent, from the interior of Hungary and given a place on the coast; for, according to a despatch to a São Paulo paper, Spain has entered into negotiations with the government of Austria-Hungary for the purchase of several warships in course of construction in the docks of Budapest.

—At half past one on Saturday morning three cavalry soldiers accosted José Rodrigues de Oliveira in Rua de S. Christóvão, and asked him for money *para matar o bicho*. Fearing the consequences of a refusal José put his hand in his pocket and drew out a note of 500 reis, which he gave to them with an apology for not having more. The soldiers, who were thus abusing the uniform of the glorious Brazilian army as a colleague expresses it, were not satisfied, and at once assaulted him, one of them knocking him senseless with a blow from his sword. The three exultants then rifled José's pockets and fled. When he came to his senses, José went to a neighboring police station and complained, and the occurrence is now being investigated.

—At the S. Sebastião hospital the number of patients admitted from 1892 to 1897, inclusive, was as follows:

1892.....	3,643
1893.....	814
1894.....	4,059
1895.....	1,223
1896.....	3,243
1897.....	530

Last year there were 110 deaths, the percentage of mortality being 18.79%. The mortality was greatest among the Italians, there being 17 deaths among the 41 patients of this nationality. Of the 317 yellow fever patients 102 died, the mortality being consequently 32.17%. The expenses of the hospital amounted to 141,660\$574, the average for each patient being nearly 225\$.







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## Last Quotations of Stocks and Bonds --- April 11th

Circulation	Public Funds			
262,133,000\$	Stock 5% currency (apofise).....	—	750,000	
102,615,000	Bonds of 1895.....	—	712 000	
124,655,000	Stock 4% (gold), converted.....	531,000—	935 000	
11,584,500	Gold Loan, 1898, 6%.....	—	2,300 000	
24,679,000	Do do 1899, 4 1/2%.....	—	1,500 000	
18,358,000	Do do 1884, 4%.....	—	700 000	
17,500,000	State of Espirito Santo.....	—	—	
10,630,000	do do Minas Geraes, 5%.....	—	—	
65,000,000	do do Rio de Janeiro, 6%.....	950 000—	153 000	
4,000,000	Emprestimo Municipal.....	—	—	
24,327,000				
Capital	Banks	Par	Last div.	
20,000,000\$	Commercial.....	200\$	8,000— Jan. 98	— 205,000
20,000,000	Comercio.....	200	8 000— Jan. 98	— 212 000
24,000,000	do 2nd series.....	80	3 200— Jan. 98	— 81 000
16,000,000	Construtor.....	200	2 000— Jan. 98	— 15 000
20,000,000	Credito Moral.....	200	6 000— Jan. 98	— 85 000
3,500,000	Lavoura e Comercio.....	100	3 000— Jan. 98	— 45 000
117,012,000	do 2nd series.....	200	9 000— Jan. 97	— 67 000
20,000,000	Nacional Brasileiro.....	200	6 000— Jan. 98	— 135,500
	Republica do Brasil.....	200	9 000— Jan. 98	— 210 000
	Rural e Hypothecario.....	100	4 500— Jan. 98	— 115 000
	do 2nd series.....	100	—	—
Capital	Railways	Par	Last div.	
3,000,000\$	Caravellas a Aymeres.....	150\$	—	7,500—
110,000,000	Leopoldina.....	200	—	—
16,000,000	Mzambinho.....	100	—	—
62,000,000	Oeste de Minas.....	200	—	—
24,000,000	do 2nd series.....	25	—	—
70,000,000	S. Paulo-Rio Grande.....	200	—	40 000—
42,000,000	Uniao Sorocabana-Haupa.....	200	—	— 15,000
	Viago Ferrea Sapenhy.....	40	—	— 5 000
Capital	Tramways	Par	Last div.	
14,000,000\$	Jardim Botânico.....	200\$	— Jan. 98	114,000—
12,000,000	S. Christovão.....	200	— Jan. 98	155 000—
Capital	Mills	Par	Last div.	
10,000,000\$	Alliança.....	200\$	— Sept. 97	180,000—
5,000,000	Brasil Industrial.....	200	— Feb. 98	122 000—123 000
5,000,000	Carteira.....	200	10 000— Jan. 98	138 000—
5,000,000	Confiança Industrial.....	200	10 000— Aug. 96	— 105 000
500,000	D. Isabel.....	200	20 000— Jan. 98	—
1,500,000	Industrial Minerã.....	200	10 000— Feb. 98	—
1,500,000	Manifactora Fluminense.....	200	9 000— Feb. 98	—
1,000,000	Petropolitana.....	200	8 000— Mar. 98	—
1,000,000	S. Pedro de Alcantara.....	200	— Jan. 98	—
350,000	Santa Luzia.....	200	— Jan. 98	—

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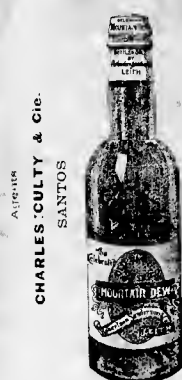
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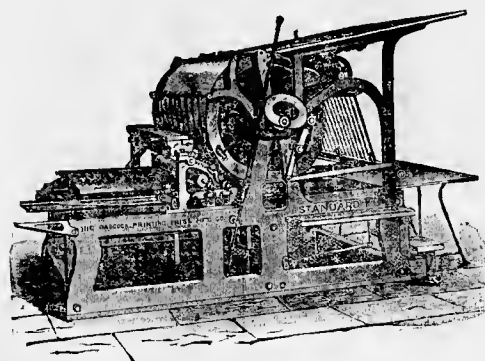
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